

REMARKS

Claims 1-44 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required election in the present application between:

Group I, claims 1-15, 25-32, and 38, drawn to an optical sensor and a method of fabricating an optical sensor, classified in class 73, subclass 1.22;

Group II, claims 16-21, drawn to a method of fabricating an optical sensor including a cavity, classified in class 356, subclass 480;

Group III, claims 22-24, 36, and 37, drawn to a sensor with a longitudinal axis of a channel aligned with a silicon dioxide projection, classified in class 385, subclass 12;

Group IV, claims 33-35 and 39, drawn to a sensor system comprising a pressure sensor and an optical sensor, classified in class 73, subclass 736; and

Group V, claims 40-42, drawn to a method of securing an optical fiber to a silicon block, classified in class 385, subclass 49.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, without traverse, Group I, Claims 1-15, 25-32, and 38.

The non-elected claims have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter therein. Claims 43 and 44 are new. Claims 43 and 44 are dependent upon claim 28 and, thus, are part of the group of claims elected above.

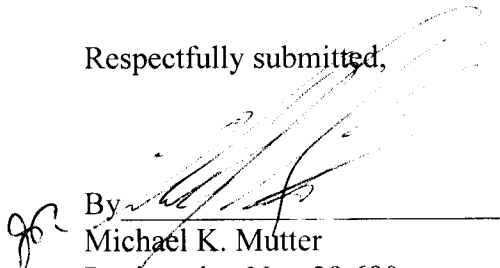
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Jason Rhodes, Registration No 47,305 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

- ☒ Attached is a Petition for Extension of Time.
- ☐ Attached hereto is the fee transmittal listing the required fees.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: December 5, 2006

Respectfully submitted,


By _____
Michael K. Mutter
Registration No.: 29,680
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant